



IT'S WELDED—Al Curler, junior vice-commander of V. F. W. Post 3251, applies his craftsmanship as expert welder to put the Post's new clubhouse together so it'll never come apart. Building, now nearing completion, is located at Washington and Apple streets. Official dedication ceremonies are expected to take place next month. —Herald Photo

Airline Operator Forced Off Field

CITY COUNCIL IGNORED HIM, SAYS TENANT

Two outstanding developments occurred in the Torrance Municipal airport situation this week, one at the city hall and the other at the \$2,000,000 flying field which is now reported to have the finest runways in the entire county.

First, Arrow Airways, doing a \$100,000 annual business, apparently is to be forced off the tenant list at the field; he was handed what purported to be an eviction notice Tuesday by E. T. Tarkington to make room to store a crane, tractor and a weed cutter.

Second, Councilman A. L. Jackson asked City Attorney C. Douglass Smith at Tuesday night's council meeting to give the council a written opinion on the city's power to lease the property at the city airport.

In a letter to George E. Batchelor, owner of the non-scheduled airlines which operate from the Torrance field to New York, Tarkington said he was canceling a temporary agreement for use of the south half of the field's only nose hangar and "ordered" the hangar vacated within 30 days.

Batchelor stated he had been advised to remain until forcibly evicted.

Tarkington gave as his reason for asking the Arrow Airways to vacate the hangar that the space was needed to store other equipment in the space now used to maintain aircraft. The other equipment consists of a tractor, a crane and a grass cutter it was learned. He also said that the field was not suited for "heavy" airplanes such as used by Batchelor, whose third 12-passenger DC-3 arrived last Friday to enable Arrow Airways to fly more than 400 persons per month on non-scheduled flights to all parts of the country.

Operating the airport on a 30 day agreement with the city, Tarkington claims the concrete runway will soon give way under the weight of the heavy planes. He says the runways are only rock base filled to a depth of four inches.

Batchelor challenges this statement, claiming that nearly four feet of fill forms the base for the mile-long air strip. Civil Aeronautics Authorities are reported to have told city officials two years ago that the strip would accommodate any plane that was in existence at that time.

The operator gave as another reason for asking the airline to move was that Batchelor refused to buy his gasoline on the air field. Batchelor says he is able to buy gasoline at Mines Field for 23.81 cents per gallon whereas he is charged 32 cents by Tarkington. The airline concern purchased nearly 200,000 gallons last month.

This amount of business could filter into the city's pockets, Batchelor explains, if Tarkington would negotiate with oil companies to allow them to service the planes operated by the air carrier.

A spokesman for a large oil company stated that Tarkington.

Marsteller to Study Art in French School

Advised by his teachers that he can obtain specialized instruction in all types of commercial art work at the Academie Julien in Paris, Norman Marsteller plans to leave August 24 for the French capital, he said yesterday.

Marsteller, who is the son of Carl Marsteller, in charge of the Torrance Municipal bus station, has been attending the Art Center School in Los Angeles. He spent 3 1/2 years at the Pacific during World War II and is attending school under the provision of the GI bill.

He plans to sail from New York on the SS Washington, an American Lines ship, on August 31, and will arrive at Le Havre September 7. He has arranged through the French consul in Los Angeles to live with a French family in Paris, in order to learn to speak the language fluently.

He already has obtained his visa and plans to visit Italy and possibly Norway during his stay on the continent.



FIRST CANDIDATE — D'oro Whiting, Torrance girl who was the first to enter the competition for the honor of being named "Miss Industry" at the forthcoming Factory Frolic and Community Fair to be held in Torrance Sept. 15 through 19.

Six Girls in Race for 'Miss Industry' at Factory Frolic

D'oro Whiting, 20-year-old former Torrance high school student, became the first girl to enter the race for the title of "Miss Industry" at the Factory Frolic and Community Fair.

Following the lead of Miss Whiting, five other lovelies jumped into the title dash Tuesday afternoon.

They were: Burna Morris, Gerry Faren, Cubie Bohannon, Lee Walker and Talulah Nagay.

Several service clubs and merchants have expressed a desire to sponsor a girl in the dash for the laurel which will go to the girl receiving the most votes between now and the staging of the Factory Frolic, September 15-19.

Each person who purchases a 25-cent ticket to the Factory Frolic will be entitled to 10 votes. The ticket will be honored for admission to the "Big Top" at the Fair as well as a crack at winning the grand prize television set and the nightly door prizes of valuable merchandise.

Next week the photographs of the girls who entered the "Miss Industry" contest too late for the picture deadline for this week's paper will appear along with any other contestants who enter between now and next Tuesday noon.

At a committee meeting last Monday it was disclosed that two additional booths had been sold to the Optimist Club, who took the Cat Rack and the Dart and Balloon booths.

Jim Lynch reported that the Boy Scouts of the Episcopal Church will handle the blanket and candy booths.

It also was announced this week that the Pueblo Center will enter a float in the parade preceding the opening of the Factory Frolic.

Schools Will Get Director of Instruction

Employment of a full-time director of instruction for the Torrance elementary school system was confirmed this week by Superintendent J. Heinrich Hull, who said the new appointee would take up his duties with the opening of the fall term.

The new director is Walter Raywald, 43, who last year was principal of one of the Montebello elementary schools, and who has supervised health and physical education programs. He holds an M.A. degree from Colorado State College of Education.

Raywald will devote full time to a position similar to that held on a part-time basis last year by Mrs. Marie Hughes, who devoted one day a week to such work. She was on loan from the County Board of Education.

Explaining Raywald's position, Hull said that his job would be to coordinate the efforts in elementary schools along curriculum lines and improve the quality of instruction work that the superintendent normally does in a small school system.

With a \$1,400,000 school building program on his hands, Hull said he did not feel that he could give the time required to improve the quality of instruction and to coordinate elementary school work, and so asked the Board of Education to allow the position, at a salary of \$5600 a year.

Left Turns Permitted

Removal of the "No Left Turn" signs on Sartori avenue was effected Wednesday by Police Chief John Stroh following a recommendation by the Merchants division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. Intersections affected were at Marcelina avenue and El Prado.

Outstanding Safety Record Achieved at Local Refinery

Marking the establishment of a safety record of 1,180,000 man hours of work without a disabling injury, covering a period of 211 days, an American Petroleum Institute "One Million Hour Certificate" has been awarded the Torrance refinery of General Petroleum Corporation.

The award climaxes a new safety program plan initiated by the company's manufacturing department in February, 1947. At that time, full responsibility for accident prevention was turned over to a foremen's safety committee and 18 workmen's safety committees. How well and enthusiastically these groups performed their tasks was reflected in the API's 1947 report of injuries which showed that, out of 36 large companies reporting, the General Petroleum group had moved from their previous average safety standing of twelfth, up to second place.

Unusual significance attaches to the notable safety mark in that, during a 10-week period, each unit was shut down and overhauled as part of an electrical conversion program from 50 to 60 cycle power. During this period, employees were exposed to many more hazards than normally experienced in their work. Study and preparations were made by the safety committees that resulted in not a single disabling accident and only a minor number of first-aid injuries during the conversion period.

Under the G. P. plan, all operating personnel and crafts in the refinery are represented on the safety committees and to them is entrusted the work of devising safety practices, recommending policies and disseminating safety information to their fellow workers. How well the plan has worked is attested by the recent award.

Local Man on Mend After Plane Crash

Edward Dalton, 35, shop foreman at the D. and M. Machine Shop, is recuperating from leg and arm injuries sustained in an airplane crash last Sunday near Lancaster.

Dalton, who lives at 2804 Sonoma avenue, was given emergency treatment at the Palmdale Hospital before being removed to the White Memorial hospital in Los Angeles.

Witnesses stated that Dalton's plane crashed into a ravine following an attempted take-off near the Dalton ranch in Juniper Canyon.

Penney Abandons Torrance Store After Union Difficulties

The J. C. Penney Co. is giving up leases on its Torrance, San Pedro and Wilmington stores; Blaine Walker, Secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, said today.

The stores were closed more than a year ago in a contract dispute with the Retail Clerks union.

Walker said top Penney officials had told him the company was withdrawing. "The company is not quite satisfied with the situation in San Pedro," Walker said.

Jack Koch, owner of the store which Penney leased here, said representatives of another important group of retail stores had talked with him about a lease in event Penney decided to leave.

Haskell Tidwell, clerks' union secretary, said the reason the Penney stores closed is Penney would not pay the wage scale accepted by similar stores.

The Penney stores closed July 3, 1947, along with "five-and-dime" chain stores in San Pedro, Wilmington and Torrance.

The "five-and-dime" stores reopened last month in all three communities.

Barrington Machine Works Expanding Local Facilities

Addition of 3200 square feet of working floor space is being made to the Torrance plant of the Barrington Welding and Machine Works, 1124 Border avenue, according to a county-wide survey of new production facilities made by the Chamber of Commerce.

The local plant, which specializes in the manufacture of parts for oil extraction mills, has been in business in Torrance for 19 years. The mills, which are used for manufacture of soap, cooking oils, paints and butter compounds, are manufactured in the east.

The 3200-square-foot addition will house precision machines used for the manufacture of the mill parts, and permit some of the present space to be used for a line of industrial hardware.

Industry added \$5,308,000 worth of new production facilities to the county's manufacturing strength in July, sending the seven-month total this year to \$49,074,500.

Fourteen new plants representing total investments of \$1,470,000 were announced last month. Thirty-two others are being expanded, requiring an outlay of \$3,838,000.

Immediately after the chain variety stores reopened the Chamber of Commerce and several other groups here wrote to Penney headquarters in New York urging the company to reopen its stores. Walker said the Penney company appreciated the interest shown, but had decided to withdraw from the harbor area for the time being.

"We hope we can get them to return some time in the future," Walker said, "and I am confident that they will do so in Torrance. Certainly it is better that the Penney location be occupied by another store now and let Penney re-open in another location when they decide to do so."

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Conciliators Enter Smelter Strike Case; Injunction Up

Hearing on an injunction sought by Pacific Smelting Company against the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, CIO, to limit picketing at the company's Western avenue plant in Torrance has been set for 9:30 a.m. Friday in Los Angeles County Superior Court.

The company has had a temporary restraining order in effect for the last 10 days limiting the number of pickets to two in front of the plant, where the newly-organized Local 700 of the Union called its members out of the plant in an effort to obtain higher wages.

The union, on the other hand, reports that one federal and two state labor conciliators have entered the case, and that they are trying to arrange a meeting between the new union's officers and M. D. Schwartz, vice president and general manager of the plant.

Meanwhile, the plant is continuing its operations and Allen Klatzker, plant manager, reports that the AFL has decreed that the strike is illegal and that drivers who are members of the Teamster's Union now will make deliveries into the plant, which produces slab zinc for water heater manufacturers and zinc chemicals.

Wives of the union members have formed an auxiliary to support the strike and to assist in strike aid, with Mrs. Opal Payne as chairman. Other officers are Mrs. Nell Fowler, vice chairman; Mrs. Cozetta Fowler, treasurer; Mrs. Betty Mazza, secretary; Mrs. Roberta Burns, legislative chairman and Mrs. May Wallace entertainment chairman.

Seven Bids in For Sweeper

Seven bids for furnishing a street sweeper to the city were under submission today by City Engineer George Stevens, following Tuesday night's meeting of the Torrance City Council, when bids were opened.

Highest bid was \$9985, submitted by the Elgin Sweeper Company, offering delivery in 17 months. Lowest bid was \$1800 for a used machine of the type specified in the city's advertisement. Lowest-priced new machine was \$5500, for which the manufacturers offered delivery in 90 days.

New V. F. W. Hall Nearing Completion

Although members of the VFW Post 3251 are already using their new building for meetings, official ceremonies for the completion of the project are expected to take place some time next month, Commander J. Brodie revealed yesterday.

Occupying 5353 square feet, the building is constructed of steel, aluminum and stone, having been erected for the most part by members of the post.

Brodie said that approximately 70 new members had joined the post within the last two months.

Names of Five Submitted for Planning Body

Names of five Torrance residents, two of them former city councilmen, were under consideration by the City Council today for possible appointment to the Torrance City Planning Commission at the next regular meeting on Aug. 17.

The names, submitted at Tuesday night's council meeting by Mayor J. Hugh Sherkey Jr., were Bronson C. Buxton, former councilman; C. Merton Gilbert, ex-councilman; Albert D. Gianni, Byron Johnson and Robert Deininger, vice president and cashier of the Torrance National Bank.

Membership of the planning body will be increased from five to nine members, under an ordinance which City Attorney C. Douglass Smith was instructed to draft, on order of the council. Resignation of Chairman Thomas F. McGuire leaves the commission with only four members at present, but five new appointees would bring the board to nine.

Selection of the new chairman of the commission will be delayed until the reorganization meeting.

Four Bids on New Radios

Four manufacturers offered to install new short-wave radio equipment in the Torrance Police and Fire Department vehicles at costs ranging from \$3270 to \$6927, when bids were opened by the City Council Tuesday night. C. F. Rothrock Jr. was the low bidder and the high bid was submitted by the Radio Corporation of America.



WIN SAFETY AWARD — These employees of the General Petroleum Company's huge Torrance refinery are among those responsible for an outstanding safety record, it was disclosed this week, for which a "One Million Hour Certificate" was presented to the plant by the American Petroleum Institute. The personnel actually worked 1,180,000 man hours without a disabling injury, covering a period of 211 days.